162 (Ser) [or as shown in SEQ ID NO: 56 (mouse) is residue 1 (Met) to residue 146 (Ser)].

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8. (amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising at least 14 contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 [or SEQ ID NO: 56].

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(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues that is at least 90% identical to amino acid residue 32 (Gln) to amino acid residue 162 (Ser) as shown in SEQID NO: 2.

(newly added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 44, wherein amino acid residue 44 is Asp, amino acid residue 47 is Asp, and amino acid residue 135 is Glu.

Subly

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues that is at least 95% identical to amino acid residue 32 (Gln) to amino acid residue 162 (Ser) as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

(newly, added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 46, wherein amino acid residue 44 is Asp, amino acid residue 47 is Asp, and amino acid residue 135 is Glu.

mewly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues from amino acid residue 41 (Gln) to amino acid residue 145 (Gln) as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

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(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues from amino acid residue 32 (Gln) to amino acid residue 145 (Gln) as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2.

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues that is at least 90% identical to amino acid residue 41 (Gln) to amino acid residue 162 (Ser) as shown if SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acid residue 145 is Asp and amino acid residue 148 is Asp.

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues that is at least 90% identical to amino acid residue 32 (Gln) to amino

acid residue 162 (Ser) as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acid residue 145 is Asp and amino acid residue 148 is Asp.

(newly added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51, wherein the sequence of amino acid residue is identical to SEQ ID NO: 2, except amino acid residue 145 is Asp and amino acid residue 148 is Asp.

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residue that is at least 90% identical to a sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, from amino acid residue 41 (Gln) to amino acid residue 145, wherein residue 145 is Asp not Gln.

(newly added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53, wherein the sequence of amino acid residue is identical to SEQ ID NO: 2, except amino acid residue 145 is Asp not Gln.

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO: 56 from residue 23 (Gln) to residue 146 (Ser).

(newly added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 55, wherein the sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO: 56 is residue 1 (Met) to residue 146 (Ser).

(newly added) An isolated polypeptide comprising at least 14 contiguous amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) amino acid residues 41-56 of SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (b) amino acid residues 68-84 of SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (c) amino acid residues 92-105 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and
- (d) amino acid residues 135-148 of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acid residue 145 is Asp and amino acid residue 148 is Asp.

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